# Exhibit A



### **Notice of Service of Process**

null / ALL Transmittal Number: 17020177

**Date Processed: 08/16/2017** 

**Primary Contact:** Service Process Team 3-11-309

Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company

Three Nationwide Plaza Columbus, OH 43215

Electronic copy provided to: Joshua Schonauer

> **Kevin Jones** Cassandra Struble

**Entity:** Nationwide Property And Casualty Insurance Company

Entity ID Number 3286574

**Entity Served:** Nationwide Property and Casualty Insurance Company

Title of Action: Seung Yang dba Yang Auto Repair vs. Nationwide Property and Casualty

Insurance Company

Document(s) Type: Citation/Petition

Nature of Action: Contract

Court/Agency: Bexar County District Court, Texas

Case/Reference No: 2017CI14407

Jurisdiction Served: Texas

**Date Served on CSC:** 08/16/2017

**Answer or Appearance Due:** 10:00 am Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after service

**Originally Served On:** CSC

**How Served:** Certified Mail Sender Information: Whyte PLLC N/A

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To avoid potential delay, please do not send your response to CSC

251 Little Falls Drive, Wilmington, Delaware 19808-1674 (888) 690-2882 | sop@cscglobal.com

Case Number: 2017-CI-14407

2017CI14407 S00001

**SEUNG YANG** 

VS.

NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURA

BEX

IN THE DISTRICT COURT 37th JUDICIAL DISTRICT BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

(Note: Attached document may contain additional litigants).

CITATION

"THE STATE OF TEXAS"

**DIRECTED TO:** 

NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY

BY SERVING ITS REGISTERED AGENT, CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY 211 E 7TH STREET 620
AUSTIN TX 78701-3218

"You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this CITATION and ORIGINAL PETITION, a default judgment may be taken against you." Said CITATION with ORIGINAL PETITION was filed on the 7th day of August, 2017.

ISSUED UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT ON THIS 11TH DAY OF August A.D., 2017.

MARC K WHYTE
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF
1045 CHEEVER BLVD 103
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78217-6339



Donna Kay McKinney
Bexar County District Clerk
101 W. Nueva, Suite 217
San Antonio, Texas 78205

By: Maria J Abilez, Deputy

SEUNG YANG VS NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURA	Officer's Return	Case Number: 2017-CI-14407 Court: 37th Judicial District Cour
Came to hand on the 11th day of August 2017, A.D., at 3:33 day of day of, by deilvering to: _ AUSTIN TX 78701-3218 a true copy of this Citation, upon which CITATION with ORIGINAL PETITION .		at 211 E 7TH STREET 620
Cause of failure to execute this Citation is	·	

Donna Kay McKinney
Clerk of the District Courts of
Bexar County, TX

By: Maria J Abilez, Deputy

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FILED 8/7/2017 12:46 PM Donna Kay McKinney Bexar County District Clerk Accepted By: Krystal Gonzalez

# CAUSE NO. 2017CI14407

SEUNG YANG DBA	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT
YANG AUTO REPAIR	§	
Plaintiff	§	
	§	0.7
VS.	§	JUDICIAL DISTRICT
	§	
NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY	§	
INSURANCE COMPANY	§	
Defendant	8	BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

### **PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION**

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

SEUNG YANG DBA YANG AUTO REPAIR, Plaintiff herein, files this Original Petition against Defendant NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY ("NATIONWIDE") and, in support of Plaintiff's causes of action, would respectfully show the Court the following:

### I. THE PARTIES

- 1. Plaintiff is a Texas resident who resides and conducts business in BEXAR County, Texas. Said property is located at: 9523 N. IH 35, San Antonio, Texas 78233.
- 2. NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY is a foreign corporation, authorized to engage in the insurance business in the State of Texas, and who issued a policy of insurance to Plaintiff named above. The Defendant may be served by serving its Registered Agent: Corporation Service Company, 211 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 620; Austin, Texas 78701-3218. Service is requested by certified mail, return receipt requested at this time.

### II. DISCOVERY

3. This case is intended to be governed by Discovery Level 3.

### III. CLAIM FOR RELIEF

4. The damages sought are within the jurisdictional limits of this court. Plaintiff currently seeks monetary relief over \$200,000 but not more than \$1,000,000, including damages of any kind, penalties, costs, expenses, pre-judgment interest, and attorney's fees. However, to the extent that Defendant refuses to cooperate in discovery, make frivolous and unwarranted objections, file needless motions, quash depositions and discovery requests without a reasonable basis, assert unjustified or false affirmative defenses, make unwarranted special exceptions, hire individuals they claim to be "experts" who give false opinions or testimony, produce witnesses who commit perjury, conduct excessive discovery, or otherwise needlessly delay litigation, the costs, expenses, interest, and attorney's fees will likely be over \$200,000 but not more than \$1,000,000.

### IV. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 5. This court has subject matter jurisdiction of this cause of action because it involves an amount in controversy in excess of the minimum jurisdictional limits of this Court.

  No diversity of citizenship exists in this matter.
- 6. Venue is proper in BEXAR County under Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code §15.002(a)(1) because all or a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred in said County. In particular, the loss at issue occurred in this County.

### V. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 7. Plaintiff is a named insured under a commercial property insurance policy issued by NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY.
- 8. On or about APRIL 12, 2016, a storm hit the BEXAR County area, damaging Plaintiff's commercial property. Plaintiff subsequently filed a claim on Plaintiff's insurance policy.
- 9. Defendant improperly denied and/or underpaid the claim. Defendant did this by undervaluing the hail/wind damage that was evident on the property.
- 11. NATIONWIDE assigned an individual adjuster on the claim, who conducted a substandard investigation and inspection of the property, and prepared a report that failed to include all of the damages that were noted during the inspection, and undervalued the damages observed during the inspection.
- 12. Moreover, NATIONWIDE performed an outcome-oriented investigation of Plaintiff's claim, which resulted in a biased, unfair and inequitable evaluation of Plaintiff's losses on the property.

### VI. CAUSES OF ACTION

- 13. Each of the foregoing paragraphs is incorporated by reference in the following:
- I. Breach of Contract (NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY)
- 14. NATIONWIDE P had a contract of insurance with Plaintiff. NATIONWIDE breached the terms of that contract by wrongfully denying and/or underpaying the claim and Plaintiff was damaged thereby.
- 15. Specifically, NATIONWIDE and its assigned adjuster, completed an inspection of the property on July 22, 2016, wherein Plaintiff's claim was undervalued.

- 16. As a result of NATIONWIDE's material misrepresentation undervaluing the hail damage observed, NATIONWIDE wrongfully underpaid Plaintiff's claim even though the Plaintiff had a policy to protect the property. Consequently, NATIONWIDE breached the terms of the contract when it underpaid the claim to the detriment of the Plaintiff.
- II. Prompt Payment of Claims Statute (NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY

  INSURANCE-COMPANY)
- 17. The failure of NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY to pay for the losses and/or to follow the statutory time guidelines for accepting or denying coverage constitutes a violation of Article 542.051 *et seq.* of the Texas Insurance Code.
- 18. Plaintiff, therefore, in addition to Plaintiff's claim for damages, is entitled to 18% interest and attorneys' fees as set forth in Article 542.060 of the Texas Insurance Code.
- 19. Failing to acknowledge or investigate the claim or to request from Plaintiff all items, statements, and forms NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY reasonably believed would be required within the time constraints provided by Tex. Ins. Code § 542.055; Failing to notify Plaintiff in writing of its acceptance or rejection of the Claim within the applicable time constraints provided by Tex. Ins. Code § 542.056; and/or Delaying payment of the Claim following NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY' receipt of all items, statements, and forms reasonably requested and required, longer than the amount of time provided by Tex. Ins. Code § 542.058.
- 20. Specifically, the damage to Plaintiff's commercial property occurred as a result of a wind/hail storm that occurred on APRIL 12, 2016. Accordingly, it has been well over sixty (60) days since the date the damage occurred to the Plaintiff's commercial property (in accordance with Article 542.058 of the Texas Insurance Code), which, in turn, causes the Plaintiff to be entitled to

18% interest and attorneys' fees as set forth in Article 542.060 of the Texas Insurance Code.

# III. Unfair Settlement Practices / Bad Faith (NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY)

- A. Actionable Conduct of Defendant (NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY)
- 21. Defendant is required to comply with Chapter 541 of the Texas Insurance
  - 22. Defendant violated § 541.051 of the Texas Insurance Code by:
    - (1) making statements misrepresenting the terms and/or benefits of the policy.
  - 23. Defendant violated § 541.060 by:
- (1) misrepresenting to Plaintiff a material fact or policy provision relating to coverage at issue;
- (2) failing to attempt in good faith to effectuate a prompt, fair, and equitable settlement of a claim with respect to which the insurer's liability had become reasonably clear;
- (3 failing to promptly provide to Plaintiff a reasonable explanation of the basis in the policy, in relation to the facts or applicable law, for the insurer's denial of a claim or offer of a compromise settlement of a claim;
- (4) failing within a reasonable time to affirm or deny coverage of a claim to Plaintiff or submit a reservation of rights to Plaintiff; and
- (5) refusing to pay the claim without conducting a reasonable investigation with respect to the claim;
  - 24. Defendant violated § 541.061 by:
    - (1) making an untrue statement of material fact;
    - (2) failing to state a material fact necessary to make other statements made not

misleading considering the circumstances under which the statements were made;

- (3 making a statement in a manner that would mislead a reasonably prudent person to a false conclusion of a material fact;
  - (4) making a material misstatement of law; and
  - (5) failing to disclose a matter required by law to be disclosed.
- 25.—At-all-material-times-hereto;-Plaintiff was a consumer-who-purchased-insurance-products and services from Defendants.

# IV. Breach of Duty of Good Faith and Fair Dealing Against NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY

26. Defendant, NATIONWIDE, breached the common law duty of good faith and fair dealing owed to Plaintiff by denying or delaying payment on the Claim when NATIONWIDE knew or should have known liability was reasonably clear. Defendant, NATIONWIDE is therefore liable to Plaintiff.

### V. Attorneys' Fees

- 27. Plaintiff engaged the undersigned attorney to prosecute this lawsuit against Defendants and agreed to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses through trial and any appeal.
- 28. Plaintiff is entitled to reasonable and necessary attorney's fees pursuant to TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE §§ 38.001-38.003 because Plaintiff is represented by an attorney, presented the claim to Defendants, and Defendants did not tender the just amount owed before the expiration of the 30<sup>th</sup> day after the claim was presented.
  - 29. Plaintiff further prays that it be awarded all reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in

prosecuting its causes of action through trial and any appeal pursuant to Sections 541.152 542.060 of the Texas Insurance Code.

### VII. CONDITIONS PRECEDENT

30. All conditions precedent to Plaintiff's right to recover have been fully performed, or have been\_waived\_by\_Defendants\_\_\_\_\_

### VIII. DEMAND FOR JURY

31. Pursuant to Rule 216 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff herein requests a jury trial and along with the filing of the Original Petition has tendered to the Clerk of the Court the statutory jury fee.

### IX. PRAYER

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff herein prays that, upon final hearing of the case, Plaintiff recover all damages from and against Defendants that may reasonably be established by a preponderance of the evidence, and that Plaintiff be awarded attorneys fees through trial and appeal, costs of court, pre-judgment interest, post-judgment interest, and such other and further relief, general or special, at law or in equity, to which Plaintiff may show it be justly entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

### WHYTE PLLC

1045 Cheever Blvd., Suite 103 San Antonio, Texas 78217 Telephone: (210) 562-2888

Telecopier: (210) 562-2873 Email: mwhyte@whytepllc.com Email: jsaenz@whytepllc.com

By:

MARCK. WHYTE

State Bar No. 24056526

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

# Exhibit A

# 68881

IN RE: IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF

80 80 80 80 80 **BEXAR HAIL BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS** 

COMMERCIAL

**CLAIM LITIGATION** CIVIL JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURTS

### STANDING PRETRIAL ORDER CONCERNING **BEXAR COUNTY COMMERCIAL HAIL CLAIMS**

This order-applies to pretrial matters in commercial property insurance cases filed in the District Courts of Bexar County, Texas that involve insurance disputes arising from the hail storms occurring in Bexar County in April and May of 2016. The purpose of this order is to expedite pretrial matters, discovery and mediation in order to minimize court costs and litigation expenses.

This order shall be posted on the Bexar County District Clerk website and shall be attached to the Original Petition of applicable cases. All attorneys and parties should endeavor to notify others about this order.

Parties seeking to be excused from any part of this order must set a hearing and request relief from the court.

AUTOMATIC ABATEMENT - The filing of an original answer by the commercial insurance carrier shall trigger an immediate and automatic abatement. The case shall remain abated until 30 days after a mediation impasse.

The abatement period will apply to all court ordered deadlines and Rule 190 discovery deadlines. The abatement period will not apply to the deadlines in this order or to any statutory deadline, interest or penalties that may apply under any statutory code or law. The parties may send written discovery during the abatement time period, however, the responses and objections to those discovery requests will not be due until 30 days after the end of the abatement period.

MEDIATION - The parties shall agree to a mediator and to a mediation date. An Agreed Mediation Order, in the form attached, shall be filed with the court within 120 days after the answer is filed.

Within 15 days of an unsuccessful mediation, the parties will submit a proposed Agreed Scheduling Order to the court.

DISCOVERY - Within 120 days of the filing of an answer by the commercial insurance carrier, the parties will use their best efforts to exchange information and documentation pertaining to the commercial property, including the following: expert reports, engineering reports, estimates of damage or repairs; contents lists for contents damage claim(s); photographs; repair receipts or invoices; the non-privileged portions of the commercial insurance carrier and adjusting company's claims file (including all claim diary notes, activity logs, loss notes and email correspondence regarding the insurance claim); payment ledger, payment log and/or proof of payment from the insurance carrier; a copy of the insurance policy in effect at the time of the respective storm claim(s); and the non-privileged portions of the underwriting file. If the insurance carrier is not in possession of the adjusting company's/adjuster's claims file, and the adjusting company/adjuster is not named as a party in the lawsuit and represented by separate counsel, then the insurance carrier shall seek the adjusting company's claims file and use their best efforts to exchange this information within the 120 day time period. The insurance carrier is also ordered to notify

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# 68881

the independent adjusting company that all emails, activity notes and loss diary notes pertaining to the hail storm claim in litigation shall be preserved and not destroyed. Finally, a privilege log will also be produced in accordance with the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure for any redactions or privileges asserted. Within 180 days of the filing of an answer by the commercial insurance carrier, the parties will use their best efforts to exchange accounting and financial documentation and other information pertaining to any claims for business interruption, loss of business income, lost profits, inventory or food loss (provide list with values), lost business expense, accounts receivable and any other business loss claim.

Any expert reports, engineering reports, contractor estimates or any other estimates of damages or repairs obtained pursuant to this order for settlement, demand, or mediation purposes and exchanged prior to mediation shall be for mediation purposes only and shall be considered confidential, except that any estimates and/or reports that are part of the claims file, which were obtained or prepared during the claims handling, shall not be considered confidential under this paragraph. However, if a consultant, whose report is produced for mediation, is designated as a retained testifying expert and does not produce a subsequent report for use at trial, the mediation report shall not remain confidential.

Confidential reports and estimates are only confidential for the lawsuit in which they are being used. Confidential expert reports designated for mediation purposes shall be returned to the providing party within 14 days of a written request. Such reports shall not be discoverable or admissible at trial or any hearing. If the party procuring the report designates the expert to testify, such party shall have the right to prevent discovery or testimony by the expert regarding the mediation report and any opinions therein, provided that a subsequent report is produced. The procuring party may use data such as measurements and photographs without waiving this privilege. Nothing herein shall prohibit the use of those reports and estimates in any subsequent insurance claims or lawsuits involving the same commercial insurance carrier.

Once a mediation date and mediator are agreed to by all parties, the commercial insurance carrier shall be permitted to inspect the property involved in the lawsuit (as soon as practicable) prior to mediation. If mediation is unsuccessful, the commercial insurance carrier and other defendants may re-inspect the property with the same, new or additional experts pursuant to the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure.

Signed on November 30, 2016

Michael Mery, Judge

37th District Court

Antonia Arteaga, Judge 57th District Court

45<sup>th</sup> District Court

David A. Canales, Judge

73rd District Court

# 68881

John D. Gabriel, Jr., Judge 131st District Court

Renée Yanta, Judge 150<sup>th</sup> District Court

Cathleen Stryker, Judge 224th District Court

Peter Sakai, Judge 225<sup>th</sup> District Court

Richard Price, Judge 285<sup>th</sup> District Court

asseb III, Judge 288th District Court

Karen H. Pozza, Judge 407<sup>th</sup> District Court

Larry Noll, Judge 08th District Court Gloria Saldaña, Judge 438<sup>th</sup> District Court

THINGS NOTES YOU 46000 PG 100-100

# 68881

### **AGREED MEDIATION ORDER**

Date:		
Mediator:		
The court, h	ereby, approves and orders the above date and mediator as agreed by the parties.	
Each side shall pay an equal portion of the mediation fee.		
	nust have in attendance a representative with full authority to enter into a final settlemen. The following shall be personally in attendance at the mediation until excused by the	
1.	An attorney of record for each party, unless the party is self-represented.	
2.	All individual parties, either plaintiff or defendant, except that individual defendant adjusters and insurer employee defendants are not ordered to attend so long as a representative with full authority to negotiate and settle on their behalf is present.	
3.	A representative of each non-individual party, unless the parties agree otherwise in writing.	
Sig	gned and entered on, 2016.	
	Judge Presiding	

68881

# Case 5:17-cv-00876-OLG **GERTIFIED MAN** 09/08/17



Donna Kay M<sup>c</sup>Kinney
Bexar County District Clerk
101 W. Nueva, Suite 217
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78205

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



7016 0600 0000 4238 6876



Page 17 of 17

U.S. POSTAGE >>>> PITNEY BOWES

William 78205 \$ 007.500
02 4W 0000350931 AUG 14. 2017

NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE C/O CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY 211 E 7TH STREET 620 AUSTIN TX 78701-3218

, 2017CI14407 8/11/2017 CITCM MARIA J ABILEZ